



## 1997 SENATE BILL 339

November 4, 1997 - Introduced by Senators MOEN, BURKE, SHIBILSKI, DECKER, C. POTTER, WINEKE, CLAUSING and PLACHE, cosponsored by Representatives POWERS, MUSSER, LA FAVE, NOTESTEIN, PLOUFF, BOCK, ROBSON, BAUMGART, KRUG, STASKUNAS, GRONEMUS, MURAT, MEYER, TRAVIS, HASENOHRL, OTTE and KUNICKI. Referred to Committee on Utility Regulation.

1     **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 15.79; and *to amend* 230.08 (2) (m) 3. of the  
2             statutes; **relating to:** prohibitions regarding members of public service  
3             commission.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, the members of the public service commission (PSC) may not have a financial interest in a railroad or public utility or serve on a committee of a political party.

This bill also prohibits members of the PSC from doing any of the following:

1. Acting as an officer or manager for a candidate, political party or committee organized to promote the candidacy of a person for public office.
  2. Being a candidate for public office in any election.
  3. Soliciting or receiving a contribution or service for any political purpose.
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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

4             **SECTION 1.** 15.79 of the statutes is renumbered 15.79 (1) (intro.) and amended  
5             to read:

6             15.79 (1) (intro.) There is created a public service commission. No member of  
7             the commission may have do any of the following:

8             (a) Have a financial interest in a railroad or public utility. If any member  
9             voluntarily becomes so interested, the member's office shall become vacant. If the

1 member involuntarily becomes so interested, the member's office shall become  
2 vacant unless the member divests himself or herself of the interest within a  
3 reasonable time. ~~No commissioner may serve~~

4 (b) Serve on or under any committee of a political party or act as an officer or  
5 manager for any candidate, political party or committee organized to promote the  
6 candidacy of any person for any public office.

7 (c) Be a candidate for public office in any election.

8 (d) Solicit or receive or be in any manner concerned with soliciting or receiving  
9 any contribution or service for any political purpose.

10 (2) Each commissioner of the public service commission shall hold office until  
11 a successor is appointed and qualified.

12 **SECTION 2.** 230.08 (2) (m) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

13 230.08 (2) (m) 3. Public service commission, created under s. 15.79 (1).

14 **SECTION 3. Effective date.**

15 (1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 3rd month beginning after  
16 publication.

17 (END)